

THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

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T. & P. McDONALD.

PLATT McDONALD, Editor.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 1862.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE,
JAMES S. ATSON,
OF MARION.

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL,
JOSEPH RISTINE,
OF FOUNTAIN.

FOR TREASURER OF STATE,
MATTHEW L. BRETT,
OF DAVIES.

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL,
OSCAR B. HORD,
OF DECATUR.

FOR U. S. SENATOR,
MILTON B. HOPKINS,
OF CLINTON.

NEWSPAPER TAX.

The Committee of Ways and Means will shortly, if they have not already done so, report a revenue bill in Congress, one feature of which is a tax on newspapers, of probably one-half cent on each copy printed, the immediate and designed effect of which will be to suppress at least one-third of the country press. The injustice and oppressiveness of such a measure is so transparent, that its warmest advocates cannot defend it from the charge of oppression. The scheme is seconded by the metropolitan dailies and weeklies, whose pecuniary circumstances are such that they can stand the loss of patronage for a time which an increase of their subscription price would entail. If Congress passes the proposed bill, the publishers will increase the price of their papers one cent on each copy, thus making a half-cent greater profit than they now do. They would not lose half as great a proportion of their subscribers as country publishers, from the fact that they are men of business and of means, who would not feel a small advance in price enough to cause them to withdraw their patronage, while subscription lists of country newspapers are composed of persons who can ill afford to pay an increase of price, even were they inclined to, which is not at all probable.

Nine-tenths of the country press barely earn a livelihood, and not unfrequently a very poor one; and any increase of expenses, or loss of patronage, could not but cause certain failure.

Another objection to the proposed tax, is its injustice and unfairness, in compelling one portion of citizens to pay an undue proportion of tax. There is as much justice, and right, in compelling blacksmiths to pay a tax on every horse they shoe, or plow they mend; in compelling carpenters to pay a tax on every board they dress or shingle they nail down; in compelling shoemakers, wagonmakers, or any other tradesmen to pay a tax on their work, and compelling merchants and dealers to pay a tax on their sales—as there is in compelling publishers to pay a tax on every paper they print. Printers are tradesmen. They produce articles necessary for the comfort and convenience of the people; and any attempt to tax them, while other tradesmen go free, exhibits a spirit of tyranny and oppression which the exigencies of the times, though great, do not demand.

The avowed object to be attained in the proposed legislation against newspapers, is an increase of revenue; but the real object is to suppress as many newspapers as possible; for they have been the means of exposing the frauds perpetrated by the thieves and corruptors who have been robbing the people and ruining the government. We do not know the precise amount of revenue which our patriotic Congressmen propose to raise in this way, but think it is two million dollars,—about enough to run the government, from fifteen to eighteen hours, at the present rate of expenses! Suppose their estimate to be correct, which is highly improbable, how much will the post-office department gain, if, as many publishers believe, half the newspapers suspend, thus losing the postage on their entire circulation, (which is at least half as much as the proposed tax,) and the postage on the thousands of letters which pass to and from nearly every paper of general circulation? We think the gain, if any at all, would be but a poor apology for doing that which the monarchical governments of Europe would be ashamed to do.

But as we have already said, the real object is newspaper suppression. The Press has been the most potent means by which frauds and impositions on the people have been exposed, and the perpetrators held up to public execration. The knaves, (and it is a lamentable fact that a great many of them get into Congress,) know that in proportion as newspapers are read by the people, will their meanness become known; hence their desire to tax them.

The press is the friend of the people—of the masses, and the enemy of tyrants and speculators. Those who attempt its destruction by legislation, are those who have reason to fear its power.

THE EXPULSION OF BRIGHT.

The expulsion of Jesse D. Bright, United States Senator from Indiana, was not altogether unexpected by the public, since the decree had gone forth that every man who did not sympathize with the party in power, should be ostracized. There is no violation of the Constitution, of law, of right, too great or too palpable for the disunion-abolitionists in Congress to perpetrate.

The only alleged cause for this extraordinary proceeding, is that Bright addressed a letter of introduction to "Jefferson Davis, President C. S. A." The letter was written at the solicitation of a personal friend, at a time when it was supposed our difficulties would be settled peaceably. Furthermore, it contained nothing treasonable or patriotic; was merely a letter of introduction, such as Representatives in Congress are almost daily called upon to write, it did not give aid and comfort to the enemy; and did not express any sentiment or opinion on the existing questions which were at issue between the government and the rebels. And for doing this, and nothing more, he is expelled by a Republican Senate.

Although the letter of introduction is the only cause alleged for his expulsion, there are few so blind as not to know that the real cause was that Mr. Bright did not, and could not be compelled to, subscribe to the abolition-emancipation schemes of the dominant party in Congress and in the North, and this letter was used to accomplish underhandedly what they thought would not be policy to do openly. If Bright had declared in public that he hoped the Mexicans would welcome our soldiers with "bloody hands to hospitable graves," he would have received the approving smiles of those who expelled him. If he had said that he was ready, in a certain contingency, to "let the Union slide," he would doubtless have received an important foreign appointment, and been unanimously confirmed by the Senate. If he had said, "The Constitution is a covenant with death, and a league with hell," he would have received the hearty endorsement of that same Senate that expelled him, and been left undisturbed in the full enjoyment of any official position in which his fellow-citizens might place him. If he had sung paeans of praise to Giddings, Garrison, Lincoln, Sumner, Hale, Seward, and the whole catalogue of abolition worthies, and lauded John Brown, he would to-day have been in high favor with the Republican party; and the thought of expelling him would never have entered their virtuous minds.

The expulsion of Bright is an outrage on the people of Indiana, who are generally supposed to be competent to attend to their business, so far as deciding on the loyalty of their representatives is concerned. Until the people had given some official intimation that they desired their representatives expelled, it was certainly in bad taste for the representatives of foreign States to take the matter in their own hands. The same arguments which were used against Bright, can, with equal propriety, be used against those who refused to vote for his expulsion. It is not charged that he committed any overt act of treason, and it is just as proper for other men to be punished for their sympathies, as it is for Mr. Bright for sympathies which he is only charged with entertaining.

We have not been an admirer of the political course of Mr. Bright for the past few years, but would not, if in our power, vote to expel him from the Senate for no other reason than that alleged.

TREASURY NOTE BILL.

The Treasury Note Bill, authorizing the issuing of \$150,000,000 of Treasury notes, has passed the House of Representatives, and will doubtless become a law. Attached to the bill is a provision making them a legal tender in payment of all dues in the United States. This completely overturns the long-established financial policy of the Government. It is a Republican scheme which cannot but result disastrously to the people and the Government.

We are under many obligations to Dr. T. D. LEXON, of LaPorte, for many favors which we shall endeavor to reciprocate if occasion offers.

It is stated by the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, (good authority,) that the expenses of the government are now \$2,000,000 per day! The Chicago Platform, which is considered by Republicans, worth "fifty millions," is proving to be rather a costly structure.

FROM KENTUCKY.

[The following letter is from a son of Dr. O. BARNES, of Bremen, connected with the 9th Ohio Battery. Although most of the facts in the letter have been published, yet the letter will repay a perusal. Accompanying the letter was a piece of Zollicoffer's pants.]

SOMERSET, Jan. 25th, 1862.

Supposing that the most of your readers have heard of the great battle of Fishing Creek but would like to hear a few details of the battle from a soldier who was there, I will write something about it.

On the 19th of January our forces (or part of them) were encamped about six miles west of Somerset, Ky. Our forces there consisted of the Indiana 10th, the Ohio 9th, and the Minnesota 2d, regiments. About day-break of said day the pickets of the rebels attacked our pickets and kept up a sharp firing for some time, when the long roll began to beat, which aroused us effectually; the boys began to pile out of their tents and into line of battle. The Indiana 10th being the first ready, started off at double-quick to the scene of action; they met the enemy in the open field and went in like tigers. They fought the whole rebel force for as much as forty minutes before they were reinforced; they were ordered to retreat, which they did, about three rods, when the rebels began to cheer, our Indiana boys could not stand that, so they halted, made an advance and a charge bayonet, which had a good effect. About this time Col. Fry, of Ky., and the rebel general, Zollicoffer, came in contact with each other; they fought each other's horses they came to time on the ground. Col. Fry shot Zollicoffer through the breast, who fell, and the body was conveyed to our quarters. The rebels soon commenced retreating and our boys after them, the rebels leaving their arms on the field. By this time we were reinforced by the 14th, 35th, 36th and 17th Ohio regiments, and an artillery company from Kentucky.

The rebels retreated about six miles, into their entrenchments on the Cumberland river, our men following them within a mile, began to throw shot and shell in among them until it began to grow dark. Our men slept on their arms until day-break; they began to prepare for action, but could see no sign of the enemy. They advanced slowly until they found the rebels had fled across the river. They left everything that they had. There were one thousand horses and mules, sixteen pieces of cannon, and all the small arms and provisions.

Our loss, as I can find out, is 38 killed and 54 wounded. The rebel loss is about 300 killed and 125 wounded.

LUTHER BAIRD.

Official Report of the Storming and Surrender of Fort Henry.

The rebel Fort Henry, on the Tennessee River was taken by Federal gunboats from Cairo and St. Louis, last Thursday. The following is the official report of the engagement:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS, Feb. 9, 1862. Flag-Officer A. H. FOOTE, Cairo:

I have this moment received the official report of your capture of Fort Henry, and hasten to congratulate you and your command for your brilliant success.

(Signed.) H. W. HALLECK, Major General Commanding Department.

REPORT OF COMMANDER FOOTE, U. S. NAVY, OF THE CAPTURE OF FORT HENRY.

CAIRO, Ill., Feb. 7, 1862.

Sir:—I have the honor to report that, on the 6th inst., at 12½ o'clock P. M., I made an attack on Fort Henry, on the Tennessee River, with the iron-clad gunboats Cincinnati, commander Stembel; the flag-ship Essex, Commander Porter; Carondelet, Commander Walker; and St. Louis, Lieut. Comdr. Paulding; also taking with me the three old gunboats, "Conestoga," Lieut. Commanding Phelps, the "Tyler," Lieut. Commanding Given, and the "Lexington," Lieut. Commanding Shirr, as a second division, in charge of Lieut. Commanding Phelps, which took position stern and in shore of the armed boats, doing good execution there during the action, while the armed boats were placed in the first order of steaming, approaching the fort in a parallel line.

The fire was opened at seventeen hundred yards distance, from the flag-ship, which was followed by the other gunboats, and responded by the fort. As we approached the fort under slow steaming, till we reached within six hundred yards of the rebel batteries, the fire, both from the gunboats and the fort, increased in rapidity and accuracy of range. At twenty minutes before the rebel flag was struck, the Essex unfortunately received a shot in her boilers, which resulted in wounding, by scalding, twenty-nine officers and men, including Commander Porter, as will be seen by the inclosed casualties. The Essex then necessarily dropped out of line, and was entirely disabled and unable to continue the fight in which she had so gallantly participated until the sad catastrophe. The firing continued with unabated rapidity and effect upon the three gunboats, as they continued still to approach the fort with their destructive fire, until the rebel flag was hauled down, after a very severe and closely contested action of one hour and fifteen minutes.

A boat containing the Adjutant General and Captain of Engineers came alongside after the flag was lowered, and reported that Gen. Loyd Tilghman, the commander of the fort, wished to communicate with the Flag-Officer, when I dispatched Commander Stembel and Lieutenant Commander Phelps, with orders to hoist the American flag where the secession ensign had been flying, and inform Gen. Tilghman that I would see him on board the flag-ship. He came on board soon after, the Union had been substituted for the rebel flag, by Commander Stembel, on the fort,

and possession taken. I received the General, his staff, and sixty or seventy men as prisoners, and a hospital ship containing sixty invalids, together with the fort and its effects, mounting 20 guns, mostly of heavy calibre, with barracks and tents capable of accommodating 15,000 men, and sundry articles, of which, as I turned the fort and its effects over to Gen. Grant, commanding the army, on his arrival, in an hour after we had made the capture, he will be able to give the government a more correct statement than I am enabled to communicate from the short time I had possession of the fort. The plan of the attack so far as the army reaching the rear of the fort to make a demonstration simultaneously with the navy, was prevented by the excessively muddy roads and high stage of water, preventing the arrival of our troops until some time after I had taken possession of the fort.

On securing the prisoners, and making necessary preliminary arrangements, I dispatched Lieut. Commanding Phelps, with his division, up the Tennessee River, as I had previously directed, and as will be seen in inclosed order to him, to remove the rails, and so render the bridge incapable of railroad transportation and communication between Bowling Green and Columbus, and afterwards to pursue the rebel gunboats and secure their capture if possible. This being accomplished, and the army in possession of the fort, and my services being indispensable at Cairo, I left Fort Henry in the evening of the same day, with the Cincinnati and St. Louis, and arrived here this morning.

The armed gunboats resisted effectually the shot of the enemy, when striking the casemate.

The Cincinnati, flag-ship, received 31 shots, the Essex 15, the St. Louis 7, and Carondelet 6; killing one and wounding 9 in the Cincinnati, and killing one in the Essex, while the casualties in the latter, from steam, amounted to 23 in number. The Carondelet and St. Louis met with no casualties. The steamers were admirably handled by their commanders and officers, presenting only their bow guns to the enemy, to avoid exposure of the vulnerable parts of the vessels.

Lieut. Commanding Phelps, with his division, also executed my orders very effectually, and promptly proceeded up the river in their further execution after the capture of the fort. In fact, all the officers and men gallantly performed their duty, and, considering the little experience they have had under fire, far more than realized my expectations.

Fort Henry was defended with the most determined gallantry by Gen. Tilghman, worthy of a better cause, who from his own account, went into the action with 11 guns, of heavy calibre, bearing upon our boats, which he fought until 7 of the number were dismounted or otherwise rendered useless.

Very respectfully, your obedient serv't,
A. H. FOOTE, Flag-Officer Commanding U. S. Naval Forces, Western Department.

To Major Gen. H. W. HALLECK, Commanding Department of the Missouri.

Louis Napoleon Proposes to Raise the Southern Blockade.

HALIFAX, Feb. 10.

The steamship America, from Liverpool the 20th, via Queenstown the 26th, has arrived.

Sales of cotton on Saturday 5,000 bales, market closing quiet.

Breadstuffs dull. Provisions heavy. Consols 92½@92 7-8.

There are vague rumors that the Emperor Napoleon has announced that he will shortly officially demand joint action in raising the blockade of the southern ports of the United States. If England refuses to take part, he will take the initiative alone.

The London Times continues to urge England not to interfere, and says the nation can afford to wait.

The pirate Sumpter is reported cruising off Mexico.

SECOND DISPATCH.

The Emperor's speech to the Corps Legislatif, on the 25th, was expected with great interest, under the belief that he will say something important on American affairs.

The London Times, in another editorial, says:

"We need not be eager to meddle with American affairs. This is the time for waiting, and we can afford to wait quite as easily as the North and South can afford to be looking across the Potomac, at a cost of two millions pounds a week of each of them. If there does come any real cause of complaint, it will tell all the more for our present patience and forbearance."

The London Globe editorially remarks that "The maritime powers cannot be expected to respect the Federal blockade unless really effective. The commerce of the world cannot suffer itself to be despoiled for an indefinite period under a mere paper blockade." "As to intervention," says the Globe, "we may be invited or offer to intervene, but our great aim must be to preserve consistency with our own principles."

The Gibraltar Chronicle says the U. S. Consul at Cadiz protested against the assistance given the Sumpter at that point.

The authorities, however, considered themselves bound to afford such aid as was indispensable. The Sumpter having sprung a leak near the screw, she was permitted to effect the necessary repairs in the arsenal.

The worst fears were realized relative to the accident at the Hartley coal mines. Not one of the buried miners was found alive.

SPAIN.—The Minister of State has declared in Congress that Spain would demand reparation from Mexico on account of the war of independence. It was also stated that Spain had received no official communication respecting any further resolution of France and England in reference to Mexico. He concluded by saying that Spain would fittingly support the interests of Mexico.

PRUSSIA.—A rupture was anticipated between the Prussian government and the Archbishop of Posen, who, in a letter to the Minister of Public Worship, defends the national attitude assumed by his countrymen.

The latest French press conclude, from the attitude of the English press, that the Trent affair was only a pretext for war, and that England wants to force the blockade of the southern ports.

The Burnside Expedition.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 10.
News by flag of truce states that our troops landed at Roanoke Island yesterday afternoon. No particulars are given, but it is intimated that the island was taken.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 11.

The Inquirer of this city has a dispatch dated Fortress Monroe, last night which reports the landing of the Federals at Roanoke Island. Three rebel gunboats were sunk, and two captured, one of them the flag-ship.

The fireman on board the steamboat reported that the stars and stripes could be seen over the batteries from Elizabeth City.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 11.

The Baltimore Clipper publishes an extra, stating that Roanoke Island was captured after three days' fighting. Two rebel gunboats were captured and the rest were sunk or scattered.

The people of Norfolk and Portsmouth are panic-stricken.

The news is confirmed by passengers by the Fortress Monroe boat.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.

A Fortress Monroe letter of the 9th states that "The bombardment of Roanoke Island continued yesterday."

"About noon Com. Lind got his rebel flotilla under way, and came down to Currituck Sound to assist Wise on the island."

"The Federal gunboats, at five o'clock on the afternoon of the 9th, had sunk three and captured two, one of which had the Commodore's pennant, and dispersed the rest of the rebel gunboats in every direction."

"Firing ceased at dark, but recommenced with increased vigor in the morning, continuing until eight o'clock, when it was supposed the rebels surrendered."

"It was rumored at Norfolk, on the morning of the 9th, that three regiments had been recently sent to Roanoke Island, and, as there was no chance of escape, they are probably captured."

"The rebels acknowledge that the only obstacles of importance to retard Burnside's march upon Norfolk are swamps, marshes, and sickness."

New Advertisements.

D. T. PHILLIPS,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,

Plymouth, Marshall Co., Ind.

OFFICE IN WESTVELT BLOCK—

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ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW,

AND NOTARY PUBLIC.

Office in Westvelv Block, Plymouth, Ind.

By order of Lodge, I. SHADLE, Sec'y.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

PLYMOUTH, :: :: :: INDIANA.

Deeds and Mortgages drawn up and acknowledged.

Collections, and all other business will receive prompt attention.

Office upstairs in the Bank Building. 45c.

WANTED!

A few cords of STONE, delivered at my premises in Plymouth, for which I will pay CASH.

January 9th—50c3 A. C. CAPRON.

Notice.

On Saturday evening, February 22, 1862, Bourbon Lodge No. 293 I. O. O. F. will elect Trustees to serve one year, or until their successors are elected.

By order of Lodge, I. SHADLE, Sec'y.

Beautiful Complexion.

Dr. Thomas F. Chapman will send to all who wish it, (free of charge,) the Recipe and full directions for making and using a beautiful Vegetable Balm that will effectually remove Pimples, Blisters, Tan, Freckles, &c., leaving the skin smooth, clean and beautiful; also full directions for using Pasteur's celebrated Stimulant, warranted to start a full growth of Whiskers, or a Mustache, in less than thirty days. Either of the above can be obtained by return mail, by addressing (with stamps for return postage) Dr. THOMAS F. CHAPMAN, Practical Chemist, 381 Broadway, New York. 52m2

Beckers' Column.

GRAND

MASS MEETING!

OF THE

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TO BE HELD EVERY DAY & EVENING,
(Sundays excepted.)

At Beckers' Corner.

S. & M. BECKER,

And other able speakers, will be in constant attendance to convince the

Assemblage of Customers,

That theirs is the place to get

BETTER BARGAINS!

THAN AT ANY OTHER STORE IN

PLYMOUTH.

We are now receiving our

FALL AND WINTER

STOCK!

Completing almost everything in the Ladies and Gentlemen's line, such as

CALICOES,

GINGHAM,

DELAINE,

PLAIDS,

SILKS

and a great many

Other Articles too Numerous to Mention.

ALSO, A FULL SUPPLY OF

CLOTHING!

SUCH AS

OVER COATS,

Dress and Business Coats

BLACK AND FANCY CASSIMERE PANTS,

Tweed, Jeans & Sat. Pants,

Every Description of Black and Fancy

SILK VESTS,

Also a full supply of

BOYS' CLOTHING,

And a general assortment of

SHIRTS, DRAWERS,

Hats and Caps,

TRUNKS,

TRAVELING BAGS,

AND

UMBRELLAS.

Together with the above we have connected a

TAILORING SHOP,

Where we are prepared to make

ALL KINDS OF

CLOTHING!

AND

WARRANT YOU A GOOD FIT.

PRODUCE

Taken at the

The Highest Market Price

S. & M. BECKER,

No. 1, Corbin Block.

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PLYMOUTH, IND.

April 17, 1861—12c

Newspapers.

The Paper for the Times.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW YORKER,

Wholly known as the most valuable and popular Journal in its sphere—as the Best and Cheapest combined Agricultural, Horticultural, Literary, and Family Newspaper on the continent—will enter upon its Thirtieth Year and Volume in January, 1862. It has long surpassed all rivals in Variety and Usefulness of Contents, and of late is, more than ever,

THE FAVORITE HOME WEEKLY.

This is proved by the immense and rapidly increasing circulation throughout the Free States, Canada, &c., and among all intelligent classes in both Town and Country. In addition to a great amount of Practical, instructive and entertaining Reading upon Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic Economy, Science, Art, Education, &c., with a variety of engravings, Music, Tales, Poetry, &c., &c., it contains a complete and carefully-prepared WEEKLY SUMMARY OF THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

So that every reader may be fully advised of the Events of the War for the Union. The Rural ably labors for the preservation and perpetuity of the American Union, as the great means of securing the permanent prosperity of the People and Country. Though standing aloof from party politics, it is always and ever for the Union, the Constitution and the Laws. Hence it is, and will continue to be,

PATRIOTIC, PROGRESSIVE AND TIMELY. In both action and sentiment—furnishing a weekly variety of appropriate reading for the various members of the Family Circle. The current advocate of Right and contemner of Wrong, its practical Departments are instructive and valuable, and its Literary and News pages interesting and entertaining, while the Moral Tone of the whole paper is unexceptionable—the fine illustrations being to promote the Pecuniary interest, Moral and Intellectual Culture, and consequent Home Welfare of the tens of thousands of families visited. It is, in fact,

BEST RURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER. In America, as both Press and People attest. Its Editors, with Hundreds of Contributors and Correspondents, labor to render The Rural an able and reliable exponent of Industry, Skill, Progress, Improvement, and what tends to elevate the Masses and Benefit the Country—a paper eminently adapted to the Wants of the People and Times. Its Reports of the Grain, Provision, Cattle, Wood and Fruit Market are invaluable—and not given in a slow monthly, (of only 12 issues per year,) but in a Large Beautiful and Progressive Weekly!